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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/808,200	03/13/2001	Stephen H. Pettigrew	PETIP001A	4219

28875 7590 10/24/2002

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EXAMINER

HUNTER, ALVIN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 10/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/808,200

Applicant(s)

PETTIGREW ET AL.

Examiner

Alvin A. Hunter

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-26,30-35 and 38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-26,30-35 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

The indicated allowability of the subject matter in claims 21, 22, 25, 30, 31, 34, and 38 which were incorporated into claims 21, 25, 30, 34, and 38 are withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Knight et al. (USPN 676506). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 21, 23, 25, 30, 32, 34, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knight et al. (USPN 676506) in view of Sellar (USPN 5662530).

Knight et al. discloses a golf ball having spots or marks which will indicate to the eye of the player the point at which the club should strike the ball and indicate the direction in which the ball should fly (See Page 1, lines 31 through 41). In Figures 3, 4, and 5, golf ball are shown having a pair of bands flanking the equator line. These bands also inherently indicate any spin associated with the ball after being struck. Knight et al. does not disclose having a putting marking on the equator of the golf ball. Sellar discloses a golf ball having a plurality of colored lands along the great circles to ensure contact point between the putter and ball on a land (See Figures 1-3 and Column 3, lines 1 through 13). Any of the lands are also capable of being a marking to

indicate lining the ball with the tee. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have any number of lands, or markings, on the great circles of the golf ball to align the putter and tee with the golf ball.

2. Claims 22, 24, 31, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knight et al. (USPN 676506) in view of Sellar (USPN 5662530) in further view of OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Knight et al. in view of Sellar does not disclose text indicating where to hit the golf ball. OFFICIAL NOTICE is taken that it is common within the art to use text to indicate instructions, and therefore, would have been deemed obvious. OFFICIAL NOTICE is also taken that it is common within the art to use color to distinguish elements that are the same, and therefore, would be obvious to have any number of golf ball of a number of colors for the purpose above.

3. Claims 26 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knight et al. (USPN 676506) in view of Sellar (USPN 5662530) in further view of Goranson et al. (USPN 3420529)

Knight et al. in view of Sellar does not disclose a golf ball having feet indicia for indicating how the user's feet should be situated when addressing the golf ball. Goranson et al. discloses a golf ball having feet marking which show the proper positions of a golfer's feet for various clubs (See Entire Document). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

have feet indicia on a golf ball, as taught by Goranson et al., in order teach the user the proper stance when addressing the golf ball.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

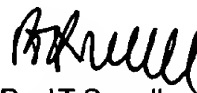
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin A. Hunter whose telephone number is 703-306-5693. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 4:00PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Sewell, can be reached on (703) 308-2126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-7768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

aah


Paul T. Sewell
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700